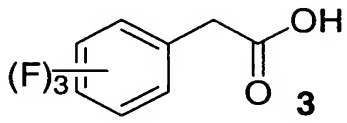
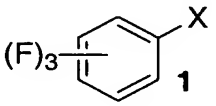
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

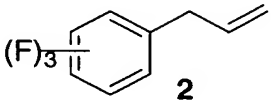
1. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula **3**:



comprising contacting a compound of the formula **1**:

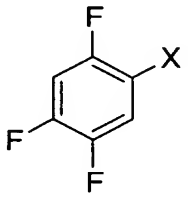


wherein X is a halogen selected from chlorine, bromine and iodine, with a magnesium compound and an allylating agent to produce a compound of formula **2**,



and reacting the compound of formula **2** with a metal catalyst and a co-oxidant to form a trifluorphenylacetic acid of formula **3**.

2. A process in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the compound of formula 1 is a 2,4,5-trifluorobenzene of the formula:



wherein X is a halogen selected from chlorine, bromine and iodine.

3. A process in accordance with Claim 2 wherein the compound of formula 1 is 1-bromo-2, 4, 5-trifluorobenzene.

4. A process in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the compound of formula **2** is 1-(2-propenyl)-2, 4, 5-trifluorobenzene.

5. A process in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the compound of formula **3** is 2, 4, 5-trifluorophenylacetic acid.

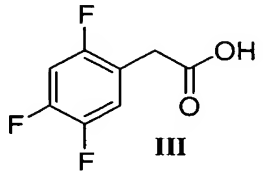
6. A process in accordance with Claim 1 whereby the allylating agent is allyl bromide.

7. A process in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the metal catalyst of the reaction is ruthenium chloride.

8. A process in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the co-oxidant of the reaction is sodium periodate.

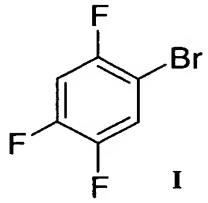
9. A process in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the reaction is carried out at about -20-40 °C.

10. A process for the preparation of 2, 4, 5-trifluorophenylacetic acid of the formula **III**:



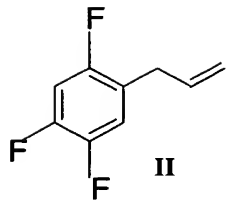
III

comprising reacting 1-bromo-2, 4, 5-trifluorobenzene of the formula **I**:



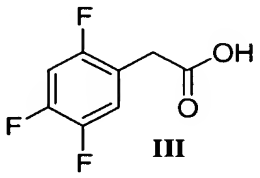
I

with magnesium chloride and allyl bromide to form an olefin intermediate of the formula **II**:



II

and reacting the compound of formula **II** with ruthenium chloride and sodium periodate to form 2, 4, 5-trifluorphenylacetic acid of the formula **III**:



III